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GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS

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BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

(The size of books is given in inches to the nearest half inch.)

NORTH AMERICA

California Tourist Guide and Handbook. Authentic Description of Routes of Travel and Points of Interest in California. By Wells Drury and Aubrey Drury. 354 pp. Maps, ills., index. Western Guidebook Co., Berkeley, Cal. \$1.25. 7 x 4½.

Travelers in California will find this book a helpful guide. It describes in detail the points of interest along the railroad lines of the state. Prospective visitors, in planning an itinerary, would do well to study the Guide for side trips as well as for the main lines of travel. Unfortunately for the best use of the volume the author has neglected to study the needs of the consultant in maps, for a number of these are on too small a scale to be of value.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

Early Days on the Western Slope of Colorado and Campfire Chats with Otto Mears, the Pathfinder. From 1870 to 1883, Inclusive. By Sidney Jocknick. 384 pp. Ills. Carson-Harper Co., Denver, Col., 1913. \$1.75. 8 x 5½.

A flavor of pioneer days is imparted by this account of the author's experiences among the Ute Indians round about the Uncompahgre Valley between 1870 and 1880. The community, not unlike others in the early days, had its strong men and its unscrupulous ones. Jocknick gives a vivid idea, and without doubt a true one, of his hero, Otto Mears, the pathfinder of the San Juan, and of other men. He devotes chapters to the tragedies of the early days when lawlessness could be easily concealed, while the stories of Packer and Howard, the one a criminal of low type and the other a highwayman, have been repeated probably in many places in the great west. We also find here an insight into the workings of the Indian agencies from the point of view both of the agent and the Indian. The book gives a plain, unpretentious account of an early phase of American life.

ROBERT M. BROWN.

The Physiography of the Rio Grande Valley, New Mexico, in Relation to Pueblo Culture. By E. L. Hewett, J. Henderson and W. W. Robbins. 76 pp. Map, ills. *Bur. of Amer. Ethnol. Bull.* 54. Washington, 1913. 9½ x 6.

This is a collection of three papers. The first by Hewett on the Rio Grande Valley, New Mexico, contains a general description of the geological and physiographic features of the region. The second is a more detailed study of El Rito de los Frijoles, a small and somewhat typical canyon valley on the western side of the Rio Grande. This paper presents three major points, the origin and age of the tufa which forms the sides of the canyon, the slow process of erosion as indicated by the positions of ancient pueblos and the steep character of the south facing wall of the canyon as compared with the more gently sloping north wall, a feature which the author attributes to differential frost action. The third paper is by Henderson and Robbins on Climate and Evidences of Climatic Changes. The belief in a slow desiccation of this region is based on historical, botanical and geological evidence. The ruins in the valley point to a considerable population a few centuries ago; these people raised corn where corn cannot be grown to-day; there appear to have been extensive lakes formerly where the ratio of evaporation